

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-11. (Cancelled)

12. (Currently Amended) A method for inhibiting a radical reaction, comprising

~~incorporating the radical reaction inhibitory agent of claim 1~~ a composition as an effective ingredient a cyclotetrasaccharide represented by cyclo{>6)- α -D-glucopyranosyl-(1>3)- α -D-glucopyranosyl-(1>} or a mixture of said cyclotetrasaccharide and its saccharide derivative(s) into a composition comprising an unsaturated compound in order to prevent an ingredient in said composition other than said unsaturated compound from being denatured by a peroxide of an unsaturated compound, formed by radical reaction.

13. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~1~~12, wherein said unsaturated compound is one or more members selected from the group consisting of fatty acids, simple lipids, conjugated lipids, terpenes, alcohols, glycosides, vitamins, proteins, peptides, amino acids, enzymes, hormones, cytokines, antibodies, flavors, pigments, dyes, emulsifiers, ~~high molecules,~~ and vinyls.

14. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 13, wherein said vitamin is one or more members selected from the group consisting of vitamin D, vitamin E, and derivatives thereof.

Claims 15-16. (Cancelled)

17. (Currently Amended) In a method for the treatment of idiopathic ulcerative colitis or Crohn's disease, comprising administering to a person in need thereof an agent for said treatment, the improvement wherein said agent comprises ~~an agent in accordance with claim 1~~ a composition comprising as an effective ingredient a cyclotetrasaccharide represented by cyclo{>6)- α -D-glucopyranosyl-(1>3)- α -D-glucopyranosyl-(1>6)- α -D-glucopyranosyl-(1>3)- α -D-glucopyranosyl-(1>} or a mixture of said cyclotetrasaccharide and its saccharide derivative(s) administered in an amount sufficient for said treatment.

18. (New) The method of claim 12, wherein said composition comprising as an effective ingredient said cyclotetrasaccharide further contains trehalose and/or maltitol.

19. (New) The method of claim 12, wherein said composition comprising as an effective ingredient said cyclotetrasaccharide further contains a radical scavenger.

20. (New) The method of claim 19, wherein said radical scavenger is one or more members selected from the group consisting of vitamins, flavonoids, polyphenols, terpenes, unsaturated fatty acids, and antioxidants.

21. (New) The method of claim 12, wherein said composition comprising as an effective ingredient said cyclotetrasaccharide further contains one or more members selected from the group consisting of reducing saccharides, non-reducing saccharides, cyclodextrins, water-soluble polysaccharides, spices, acids, tastes, alcohols, inorganic salts, emulsifiers, flavors, and pigments.

22. (New) The method of claim 12, wherein said composition comprising as an effective ingredient said cyclotetrasaccharide contains said cyclotetrasaccharide in an amount of at least 1 w/w %, on a dry solid basis.